



MEDI-CAL COUNTY PROGRAM MONTHLY AVERAGES FISCAL YEAR 2001-2002

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Medical Care
Statistics Section

ABSTRACT

Summary of average monthly Medi-Cal program data, eligibles as a percent of the county population, rates of fee-for-service users per 100 fee-for-service eligibles, and cost per fee-for-service user for each county.

INTRODUCTION

Utilization and provider payments for Medi-Cal services vary from county to county. This report updates prior reports and offers county data for Fiscal Year 2001-2002.



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HIGHLIGHTS

Table 1

Statewide, an average of 5,846,217 persons were eligible for Medi-Cal each month of Fiscal Year (FY) 2001-2002. The Medi-Cal population reflected 16.7 percent of California's total population.

The percentage of the population eligible for Medi-Cal varies sharply from county to county. In Tulare County, 30.2 percent of the population was eligible, while in Marin County, only 5.0 percent was eligible.

In most of the counties (46 of the 58), at least one person out of ten was eligible for Medi-Cal during FY 2001-2002.

In Los Angeles County, an average of 2,286,186 persons were eligible for Medi-Cal each month. This was 23.3 percent of the county's population. Los Angeles County accounted for 39.1 percent of the statewide Medi-Cal population.

Over half of the total Medi-Cal population was located in only four counties: Los Angeles, Orange, San Diego, and San Bernardino.

Table 2

County Organized Health Systems (COHS) counties are not included in this table due to incomplete data.

Statewide, the percentage of persons who were eligible for fee-for-service Medi-Cal who actually used a covered service averaged 66.7 percent in FY 2001-2002.

Forty-six California counties had user rates of 50 percent or more in FY 2001-2002 for fee-for-service.

Alpine County, whose eligible population averaged 227 persons per month, had the lowest user rate, 36.6 percent.

Statewide, the average cost per user was \$603.61. Sonoma County's cost per user of \$1,176.54 was the highest and the lowest cost per user was in Merced County at \$380.33.

In seven counties, the cost per user rates ran 25 percent or more below the statewide average. Three counties had rates 25 percent or more above the statewide average.

Various factors may influence the average cost per user in a county. One factor is the relative proportion of users receiving the more costly services, such as state hospital services, acute care hospital inpatient services, or long-term care.

DATA QUALIFICATIONS

Figures in this report do not represent the official budget figures for medical and related expenditures.

Expenditures in this report represent cash flow payments for medical care. Included are provider payments reported in the Paid Claims System, by Delta Dental, state hospitals, and the major fiscal intermediary, Electronic Data Systems.

Excluded from this report are Medi-Cal payments for Early Periodic Screening, Short Doyle/Medi-Cal, Medicare Buy-In, per capita payments for managed care plan coverage, audit recovery monies, refunds and administrative expenses.

County Organized Health Systems (COHS) are Medi-Cal pilot projects that are prepaid on a capitated at-risk basis. The first COHS went into effect June 1, 1983 in Monterey County and remained in effect through February 1985. A second was effective September 1, 1983 in Santa Barbara County. The Health Plan of San Mateo was effective December 1, 1987. The Partnership HealthPlan - Solano County was effective May 1, 1994 (formerly the Solano Partnership Health Plan). Orange County Organized Health System (CalOPTIMA) was effective October 1, 1995. Santa Cruz County Health Options was effective January 1, 1996. Santa Cruz now has a new name: Central Coast Alliance for Health-Santa Cruz. The Partnership Health Plan - Napa County was effective March 1, 1998. Monterey County became a COHS effective October 1, 1999. Its plan name is Central Coast Alliance for Health-Monterey. The most recent is Yolo County, which began in March 2001. Its name is Partnership Health Plan of California -Yolo.

Authorization and payment for most health care services are handled by the COHS for all Medi-Cal eligibles in the respective county. Certain services continue to be handled by other agencies, including dental services, which are handled by Delta Dental (DD) for all counties. The Statewide COHS enrollment averaged 426,308 persons per month during FY 2000-2001.

It should be noted that utilization and cost data for Medi-Cal Health Care Plan (HCP) enrollees are not available and are excluded in Table 2. Not included are the Health Care Plans in Alameda, Contra Costa, Fresno, Kern, Los Angeles, Marin, Placer, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Francisco, San Joaquin, Santa Clara, Sonoma, Stanislaus, Tulare and Yolo County. The Statewide HCP enrollment averaged 2,046,526 persons per month during FY 2000-2001.

A Geographic Managed Care (GMC) pilot project began April 1, 1994, in Sacramento and July 1, 1998, in San Diego. Utilization and payment data reported in Table 2 for Sacramento County and San Diego County reflect only claims processed through the State's fiscal intermediaries (EDS and DD) and claims for state hospital services.

The lower figures for eligibles reported in Table 2 as compared to Table 1 reflect the exclusion of Managed Care Plans. The eight COHS counties are excluded entirely.

TABLE 1
COUNTY POPULATION, MEDI-CAL ELIGIBLES
AND MEDI-CAL ELIGIBLES AS A PERCENT OF THE POPULATION
FISCAL YEAR 2001-2002

COUNTY	01-Jan-02 POPULATION	MEDI-CAL ELIGIBLES/1/ (INCLUDING MANAGED CARE PLANS)	ELIGIBLES PER 100 POPULATION
STATEWIDE	35,037,360	5,846,217	16.7
Alameda	1,486,600	186,981	12.6
Alpine	1,210	227	18.8
Amador	36,100	2,850	7.9
Butte	207,000	43,567	21.0
Calaveras	41,700	5,113	12.3
Colusa	19,450	4,235	21.8
Contra Costa	981,600	89,631	9.1
Del Norte	27,850	6,992	25.1
El Dorado	163,600	12,302	7.5
Fresno	826,600	234,843	28.4
Glenn	26,800	5,688	21.2
Humboldt	127,700	23,933	18.7
Imperial	150,800	41,865	27.8
Inyo	18,250	2,596	14.2
Kern	687,600	160,673	23.4
Kings	133,100	26,167	19.7
Lake	60,300	13,916	23.1
Lassen	34,200	4,609	13.5
Los Angeles	9,824,800	2,286,186	23.3
Madera	129,700	30,231	23.3
Marin	249,900	12,566	5.0
Mariposa	17,250	2,152	12.5
Mendocino	87,700	17,278	19.7
Merced	218,900	62,615	28.6
Modoc	9,350	1,953	20.9
Mono	13,250	928	7.0
Monterey	409,600	63,270	15.4
Napa	128,000	10,405	8.1
Nevada	95,300	7,170	7.5
Orange	2,939,500	301,173	10.2
Placer	264,900	16,418	6.2
Plumas	21,000	2,629	12.5
Riverside	1,644,300	226,836	13.8
Sacramento	1,279,900	246,810	19.3
San Benito	55,900	5,833	10.4
San Bernardino	1,783,700	313,052	17.6
San Diego	2,918,300	318,518	10.9
San Francisco	793,600	113,812	14.3
San Joaquin	596,000	118,240	19.8
San Luis Obispo	253,600	24,995	9.9
San Mateo	717,000	48,197	6.7
Santa Barbara	407,900	54,318	13.3
Santa Clara	1,719,600	164,931	9.6
Santa Cruz	260,200	27,364	10.5
Shasta	169,200	33,883	20.0
Sierra	3,500	407	11.6
Siskiyou	44,450	9,191	20.7
Solano	405,800	45,162	11.1
Sonoma	471,000	38,191	8.1
Stanislaus	469,500	97,087	20.7
Sutter	81,900	15,852	19.4
Tehama	56,900	12,192	21.4
Trinity	13,100	2,308	17.6
Tulare	379,200	114,409	30.2
Tuolumne	55,800	6,644	11.9
Ventura	780,100	85,655	11.0
Yolo	176,300	24,520	13.9
Yuba	61,000	16,649	27.3

/17 Average Monthly Eligibles.

Note: Includes regular Fee-For-Service and Managed Care Plans.

Figures are rounded independently and may not add to totals.

Source: State of California, Department of Finance, Population of California Counties,
May 2002.

State of California, Department of Health Services, MCSS File HCP0207_
Benes_by_Managed_Care_Plan_2002_07, created from the December 2002
Month of Eligibility File using a six-month lag.

TABLE 2
MEDI-CAL PROGRAM
AVERAGE MONTHLY FEE-FOR-SERVICE (FFS) ELIGIBLES, USERS, PROVIDER PAYMENTS,
USERS PER 100 ELIGIBLES, AND COST PER USER BY COUNTY
FISCAL YEAR 2001-2002 - FFS ONLY

COUNTY	AVERAGE MONTHLY ELIGIBLES/1/	AVERAGE MONTHLY USERS/1/	AVERAGE MONTHLY PROVIDER PAYMENTS/1/	USERS PER 100 ELIGIBLES/1/	COST PER USER/1/
TOTAL	2,838,384	1,892,714	\$1,142,461,846	66.7	\$ 603.61
Alameda/3/	90,242	63,745	43,638,767	70.6	684.58
Alpine	227	83	32,540	36.6	392.05
Amador	2,849	1,703	994,408	59.8	583.92
Butte	43,550	23,734	12,054,771	54.5	507.91
Calaveras	5,112	2,682	1,305,823	52.5	486.88
Colusa	4,233	2,097	802,616	49.5	382.74
Contra Costa/3/	43,835	30,644	20,496,562	69.9	668.86
Del Norte	6,989	3,804	1,726,298	54.4	453.81
El Dorado	12,286	6,537	3,406,940	53.2	521.18
Fresno/3/	84,433	73,887	33,473,683	87.5	453.04
Glenn	5,686	2,909	1,381,590	51.2	474.94
Humboldt	23,927	14,075	7,152,632	58.8	508.18
Imperial	41,842	22,231	9,185,196	53.1	413.17
Inyo	2,591	1,412	820,324	54.5	580.97
Kern/3/	66,555	48,755	23,655,723	73.3	485.20
Kings	26,156	14,175	5,845,248	54.2	412.36
Lake	13,904	8,404	4,312,085	60.4	513.10
Lassen	4,607	2,616	1,336,465	56.8	510.88
Los Angeles/3/	1,045,603	655,927	422,652,970	62.7	644.36
Madera	30,218	15,401	6,521,199	51.0	423.43
Marin/3/	12,293	6,556	4,651,757	53.3	709.54
Mariposa	2,151	1,273	643,155	59.2	505.23
Mendocino	17,270	9,961	5,209,902	57.7	523.03
Merced	62,579	28,627	10,887,849	45.7	380.33
Modoc	1,951	1,081	797,087	55.4	737.36
Mono	927	454	236,343	49.0	520.58
Nevada	7,165	4,037	2,563,726	56.3	635.06
Placer/3/	16,409	9,005	5,712,754	54.9	634.40
Plumas	2,627	1,614	1,106,725	61.4	685.70
Riverside/3/	105,962	70,628	43,850,341	66.7	620.86
Sacramento/2/	87,388	59,278	35,199,087	67.8	593.80
San Benito	5,819	2,850	1,463,912	49.0	513.65
San Bernardino/3/	147,618	98,989	59,840,932	67.1	604.52
San Diego/2/	148,656	119,846	77,718,340	80.6	648.49
San Francisco/3/	71,507	55,006	40,008,821	76.9	727.35
San Joaquin/3/	50,523	38,039	21,801,324	75.3	573.13
San Luis Obispo	24,966	13,543	6,963,659	54.2	514.19
Santa Clara/3/	95,095	59,906	45,427,807	63.0	758.32
Shasta	33,873	20,064	11,903,807	59.2	593.29
Sierra	407	229	244,199	56.3	1,066.37
Siskiyou	9,187	5,150	2,493,105	56.1	484.10
Sonoma	37,533	20,141	23,696,600	53.7	1,176.54
Stanislaus/3/	70,523	40,368	18,830,431	57.2	466.47
Sutter	15,842	8,368	4,224,329	52.8	504.82
Tehama	12,189	6,888	3,403,283	56.5	494.09
Trinity	2,307	1,392	769,731	60.3	552.97
Tulare/3/	45,449	43,949	24,893,341	96.7	566.41
Tuolumne	6,641	4,181	2,355,459	63.0	563.37
Ventura	85,601	43,003	19,893,795	50.2	462.61
Yuba	16,644	8,968	3,949,291	53.9	440.38
Not Reported	0	5,430	5,895,125	0.0	1,085.66

/1/ Excludes Managed Care Plans.

/2/ Availability of FFS data is limited for Sacramento County and San Diego County. Most California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs) eligibles are covered by Geographic Managed Care (GMC).

/3/ These eligible counts exclude Managed Care eligibles. User counts include services carved out for Managed Care plans, which may include Dental Services.

Note: Includes regular Fee-For-Service. Averages are rounded independently and may not add to totals.

Source: State of California, Department of Health Services, Medi-Cal Services and Expenditures Month of Payment Report.

State of California, Department of Health Services, MCSS File HCP0207_Benes_by_Managed_Care_Plan_2002_07, created from the December 2002 Month of Eligibility File using a six-month lag.